

**DEARNE AREA COUNCIL**

**2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015**

**BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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29. **Present:** Councillors Noble (Chair), Brook, Sim, Sixsmith, and Worton.

30. **Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests**

There were no declarations of pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests.

31. **Minutes of the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

The meeting received the minutes from the previous meeting of Dearne Area Council.

**RESOLVED:-** that the minutes of the Dearne Area Council meeting, held on 24 November 2014 be approved as a true and correct record.

32. **Notes of the Ward Alliances**

The meeting considered the notes from the Dearne North Ward Alliance held on 18 November 2014 and the Dearne South Ward Alliance held on 10 December 2014.

It was noted that Dearne North Ward Alliance Member David Perry was recorded as 'Dave' and that he preferred his full Christian name to be used.

**RESOLVED:** that the notes of the Ward Alliances be received.

33. **Report on the use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds**

The Area Council Manager introduced the item, and attention was drawn to the breakdown of expenditure of the Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds.

The Area Council Manager reported that with applications going through at the present time not yet showing in the attached report that Dearne South had no Devolved Ward Budget to earmark to the new financial year and Dearne North had just £109.00. The Dearne North and South Ward Alliances also have just a small amount remaining with Dearne South still to hold a meeting to consider funding applications on 11<sup>th</sup> February.

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**RESOLVED:** That the report on the Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds be received.

**34. Update on procurement and commissioning**

*Skills for Work Training*

The Area Council Manager updated members on the excellent progress of the Skills for Work Training commission reporting that the provider - VAB working in partnership with Dearne Electronic Community Village is over achieving on outputs and outcomes set out in the original contract. It was also reported that 3 positive case studies of trainees' individual progress had been provided for the contract monitoring meeting on 23 January and that these would be shared with members by email following the meeting.

*Additional Housing and Generic Enforcement*

The Area Council Manager highlighted that Kingdom Security are up to date with contracted hours and there are no concerns to report. The Tasking Officer reported 12 parking tickets were issued on the first day of enforcement to vehicles parked in the lay-by. Two more tickets were issued on the second day, including one to a vehicle which had been ticketed the previous day. Three days later the enforcement vehicle was attacked and 'keyed' on both sides. Intelligence is available about the possible culprits, which will be passed on. Problem areas, including High Street, Goldthorpe, were highlighted and dog fouling patrols are being carried out. The initial payment rate for fines is 68% and none have as yet gone to court. 111 tickets have been issued in the area in total – 82 for littering, 13 for dog fouling and 16 for parking offences. Intelligence is being received about incidents (for example fly-tipping) and problem areas. There is an excellent relationship between the Enforcement Team, primary schools and the ALCs with good access for assemblies and intelligence gathering.

In terms of the South Yorkshire led reconfiguration of the Police service, as of 8<sup>th</sup> June officers will be removed from Goldthorpe Police Station. Any policing concerns should come through the Tasking Officer or by calling 101. Members expressed disappointment about the proposals and concern that the progress made in keeping crime figures down may be lost.

Members were informed that a total of £263,439 is available for new projects in the 2015/16 financial year.

**RESOLVED:** - that members note the progress of the current commissions together with the financial statement provided.

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**35. Community Magazines**

The Lead Locality Officer introduced this item, seeking support for the introduction of a twice-yearly community magazine for each Area Council following the phasing out of Open Door from March. A number of options were outlined together with risks and proposed timescales for publication and distribution. Members felt that this would be a good way to inform the general public about what the Area Council is doing for the area. It was highlighted that the information provided must be up to date and publication of the magazine would involve closer working with the Area Team.

**RESOLVED: -**

- (i) that the Area Council approve the production of a community magazine for a trial of two editions for one year whilst noting the human and financial resource requirements linked to this approach together with the process and timescales for signing off the publications;
- (ii) that up to £3,000 be allocated for the distribution of two editions of the community magazine.

**36. Proposed clean and tidy commission**

The Area Council Manager invited members to discuss the outline specification for the commissioning of a Clean and Tidy Service for the Dearne Area. The project will work towards the creation of a clean, tidy and welcoming environment where people can be proud to say they live and work. The contract value for the work has been estimated at £75,000 for one year, to be reviewed for further funding if successful. A discussion took place about including repairs to fences on the allotments in the project, as this would improve the general appearance of the area. It was also pointed out that the cemetery is a designated wildlife area and this should be taken into account. The Area Manager stated that the project will have a strong social value focus; will engage with young people and community groups and that it will be built into the specification that work will be done in conjunction with other environmental projects with a view to expanding the preventative agenda rather than focussing on clean-up operations.

**RESOLVED: -**

- (i) that the Dearne Area Council Manager should further develop the project, ensuring work with other projects is built into the specification;
- (ii) that the Dearne Area Council Manager will organise a workshop to look at future commissioning.

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Chair